

greatest part of the virtues of the malt, the grains feed our cows and hogs.

Let us quit this field, my dear children, and ramble over the next, where I see is a fine crop of oats. Now, oats are easily to be distinguished from either wheat or barley; for the wheat and barley-corns lie close together in one ear, but the oats hang in separate parcels, like fruit on a tree. Oats are generally mowed with a scythe, like grass; but wheat and barley are cut down with a sickle. I have heard you say, Master Billy, that you are fond of oat-cakes, and I know Miss Charlotte is.

These cakes are made of oats ground into flour; and of the same grain is made oatmeal, which serves to thicken your broths, or make you milk-pottage for your breakfasts, or water-gruel when you are ill.

I do not see any field of rye here, which is another kind of grain, that grows a good deal like barley. Bread is some-
times

times made of it, but it is not very good, and is only consumed by those poor people who cannot get better.

Though we have such plenty of grain, and indeed a great deal to spare, which we often send over to France, Germany, and other places, yet we fetch grain from other countries, as millet from Turkey, and rice from the East Indies. These are usually made use of in puddings; and I have heard you both say, that rice-milk is delicious eating.

It is not in every country that grain is to be procured, either from want of a proper soil, or not knowing how to procure the seed, or how to manage it when procured. In this case, they are obliged to content themselves with eating fruit or roots. Indeed, even in some parts of the country you live in, there are people who are so extremely poor, that it is not in their power to procure bread, but are forced to live on what they can make of oats, such as cakes and puddings. Instead of
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